
JAIL INDUSTRIES JOURNAL

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Funding Jail Industries

There is hope...

By Dean Mason

Executive Director, Jail Industries Board

The past few months have been busy and time has flown by. This issue is a little late, but the articles inside demonstrate the growing success of employment-based programs around the State of Washington. At the same time, we are all caught in the midst of a recession that impacts every facet of our operations. Parts of the State budget are still in question, which means aspects of local budget planning remain in flux as well.

Offender programs are often a “first cut” area and we have to be more and more creative in obtaining funding and resources to keep existing programs alive while simultaneously attempting to develop new ventures. Rarely have I heard any agency

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Enterprise 2010 National Training Conference Recap

National Correctional Industries Association

The National Correctional Industries Association (NCIA) is an international nonprofit professional association whose members represent all 50 state correctional industry agencies, Federal Prison Industries, foreign correctional industry agencies and city/county jail industry programs. Private sector companies that work in partnership with correctional industries both as suppliers/vendors and as partners in apprenticeship and work programs are also members. The NCIA holds an annual training conference in a different region of the country each year. This year’s conference, *Navigating Uncharted Waters – New Solutions in Correctional Industries*, was held in Cincinnati, Ohio, on March 21 – 24, 2010.

This year’s theme was timely and appropriate given the national recession and resulting budget deficits throughout government, from the federal to the local level. Workshop after workshop outlined the need for industries programs to be nimble and creative in order to find success in the current economy. Conference attendees spent a great deal of time sharing ideas, during and outside of the workshops, on what works.

In keeping with the conference theme, this year’s jail industries track adopted a back-to-basics approach with an overarching goal of coaching jails that are new to the concept of increasing inmate work programs and productivity.

The first day of workshops included a “what works” overview from the perspective of successful industries programs employed at the Arapahoe County (Colorado) Jail. The second workshop of the day focused on assisting inmate workers with developing the “soft skills” that every

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Growing a New Jail Program

Using Carl Perkins Grant Funds and Ingenuity

By Wendy Jones

Administrator, Whatcom County Corrections Bureau

Take some open space, add some offenders with a desire to do something with their lives, mix in a skilled supervisor and a little seed money, and it is amazing what you can create.

In the spring of 2008, I was contacted by Dean Mason, of the Jail Industries Board, about the opportunity for a small grant to use as seed money to start an offender program. This resulted in the creation of our Inmate Horticulture crew. The crew, supervised by one of our Crew Supervisors, constructed an on-site commercial greenhouse to grow native species plant root stock. This root stock was then propagated for eventual sales to government organizations involved with the restoration of salmon habitat along local streams, creeks and rivers.



Inmates constructing the greenhouse.

We were lucky in that one of our Crew Supervisors is a landscape architect who had taught a number of years at our local community college. He was able to design a course that is a combination of classroom work and hands on training. Offenders receive a certificate as they complete each stage of the program, and once completing the entire program, have an excellent working knowledge of how to successfully propagate and grow native plants. This creates a skill set than can be used in a

number of different agricultural businesses in the local area.

Once we get the plant stock built up, the next section of this program will begin; including marketing, sales and product transportation. This will broaden the skill sets of the offenders, providing them with the opportunity to practice the proficiencies needed in a retail nursery business.



It's a growth industry...

Additionally, we encourage crew participants to enroll in our basic adult education class and take advantage of a financial planning and management course offered by some local volunteers.

The program has not been without its bumps. There was a long delay in obtaining the permitting for the greenhouse, which set us back almost an entire year in getting the plant starts set. However, we are on our way, and as of this spring, will be expanding to outdoor beds to harden off the plants prior to moving them to their final locations. We look forward to the continued growth of this program and appreciate the opportunity given us by the Jail Industries Board. ♦

“You must not deal only with the symptoms. You have to get to the root causes by promoting environmental rehabilitation and empowering people to do things for themselves. What is done for the people without involving them cannot be sustained.”

- Wangari Maathai

National Correctional Industries Association – Jail Industries Division

In March 2008, at the National Training Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico, the National Correctional Industries Association (NCIA) and the Jail Industries Association (JIA) finalized a merger that made the JIA a division of NCIA. The newly formed Jail Industries Division is represented by an elected member of the NCIA Board of Directors who serves a two-year term.

[Dean Mason](#), Executive Director of the Washington State Jail Industries Board (JIB) was elected to serve as the national jail industries representative to the NCIA for 2010 and 2011.

The [National Correctional Industries Association](#) is a valuable source of information and representation. The national staff monitors, responds and reports on issues, legislation and grants that are vital to the operation of industries and inmate work programs at all correctional facilities. The NCIA provides a variety of venues for professional development, including:

- ✓ Annual National Training Conference
- ✓ Quarterly Newsletter
- ✓ National surveys
- ✓ Webinar hosting of training and facilitation of discussion on nationally relevant topics
- ✓ Collaboration with the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) to present live web broadcasts on pertinent topics.

The overarching message of all NCIA sponsored training and information is that inmate work programs are essential to a successful reentry initiative, while providing an unrivaled inmate management model that promotes a safer environment for all. Finally, NCIA members are eligible to run for election to the NCIA Board of Directors, providing excellent opportunities to serve in leadership roles at the national level.

At \$45 per year, NCIA membership is a true value to any practitioner who is serious about their professional development and career progression.

[JOIN TODAY](#)

Why We Do What We Do...

Editors Note: The following is a letter received by Officer Dave Charleston from a former offender/student. Dave is the Horticulture Work Crew Supervisor at the Whatcom County Work Center. This letter was reprinted with written permission from the author.

March 1, 2010

To whom it may concern,

My name is Francisco Salinas and I was an inmate at the Whatcom County Work Center for a period of sixteen months. For my last nine months there I was told about a new Horticulture Crew that was going to be offered by Dave Charleston and that he would be teaching some good landscaping and maintenance techniques as well as giving us some classroom time to learn about the fundamentals of Horticulture and Landscape Design.

I was thrilled to have the opportunity to be a part of something that for one, helped me to feel like a part of something bigger than myself, and second, was able to learn some important skills that I have been able to use and apply since my release. The class time was great in that we were given a lot of reading material and information that would otherwise have been next to impossible to obtain in jail. The hands-on work and training was invaluable and gave me a new appreciation for the importance of watersheds, riparian zones, and the salmon enhancement projects that I was privileged enough to be a part of.

Since my release in May of 2009, I have held a part time job in the landscaping field and have found that I probably couldn't have gotten the job or do as good as I do if I hadn't been part of the Horticulture Crew when I was there. I am grateful to Dave and the Work Center as well, for giving me the chance to gain some excellent skills that have helped me to sustain employment. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Francisco Salinas

[Update: Francisco is still employed part-time and is back in school and studying hard.] ♦

If I Can Do It...Anyone Can!

A Reentry Success Story

By Roxanne Bradshaw

Trainer, Environmental Management Training LLC

Editor's Note: On November 10, 2009, Roxanne Bradshaw walked into the Kitsap County Jail to teach and certify ten women in hazardous waste operations and asbestos abatement. This return to the jail is a happier chapter from a much longer story. It is Roxanne's story...

From 1994-1995, I was one of 10 inmates privileged enough to be included in the Asbestos Worker Certification Training Program offered through the Department of Corrections - Correctional Industries at the Washington Corrections Center for Women (WCCW).

I saw a friend of mine turn her life around after going through the program at WCCW. I made up my mind that, if she could do it, I could do it. I passed the certification test and went to work. I felt blessed that I was one of only ten out of the 700 women at WCCW that got to be on the work crew. I felt like I had been given a chance to change my life and to learn a real trade. The biggest bonus was that I loved the work! I went to work release and got a job working for an asbestos company. It was the slow time of the year, so I only worked one or two days a week. This did not give me enough work hours to sponsor out, but I did not care about that because I made more in one day than most of the other women in work release made in a week. I just wanted to work hard and create a new life for myself and my daughter and nephews.

My fatal mistake was to think that I could still drink alcohol. I was very adamant about not doing any drugs ever again, even behaved self righteous about it. My ego took over and I began to judge others that did return to drugs, which put the training program at risk. I acted like I had forgotten where I came from. My ego had taken over...which was not a good thing.

Once I was released, the first thing I did was drink a wild berry cooler. Six days later I was working out of town, staying in a motel with a beeper for work. I was running a job in Olympia, in my old

stomping grounds and the place I started using drugs in 1972. Some of my old neighborhood gang still lived on the same block and were still doing the same old thing. But they were so proud of me...they could do their drugs right in front of me and it did not bother or tempt me in any way.

I continued this sticky situation for almost a month before one drunken night at the afterhour's party where I was handed a coke can with free based cocaine on it. I had already inhaled it before my friend came in and tried to stop me. It was too late; I knew I had to do a UA the next day. I passed out and when I woke up I was so angry with myself. The self loathing and failure set in. The old tapes in my head started playing again, "You are a worthless junkie, despicable, never gonna amount to nothing..." I tried to fake the UA; my community placement officer knew I had diluted it, but she let me walk out of her office and I never walked back in again.

Instead of being honest and asking for help, I used it as an excuse to continue on the path of self destruction. I became suicidal; all I could think about was how I failed my daughter and nephews...how I disappointed my parents and brother again. They stood by me through the whole four and a half years in prison; I got a clothing package every quarter, visits every week, everything that I was allowed to have... And how did I thank them? I had gone right back to my old ways within the first month and I was back on the streets.

I lost all hope, I lost all faith in myself, and I convinced myself they would all be better off without me; so, I hooked up with a meth cook and proceeded to attempt to die. I took every risk I could, including wishing the chemical tank would leak so I would be the first one to carry it outside; praying that it would just blow up and put me out of my misery and everybody else's.

After nine months of this insanity, I was arrested again and on my way back to WCCW. I had been physically assaulted; kidnapped, robbed, totaled my car, spent all of my savings on drugs and lost 70 pounds. But most of all, I lost my family. How could my daughter ever forgive me? How could I hurt my mother and father like this? How could I

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ever face my little brother after he offered me a great opportunity to get into the carpenters union? How could I let down my daughter and my Nephews when I had promised them we would live together and make up for all the lost time. If only I would have died instead of my sister, their lives would be better... How could I ever forgive myself? My father told me over the phone that they were moving and I was not allowed to have their address or phone number and as far as he was concerned, both of his daughters were dead. (My sister had been murdered in 1988, something we never got over) That was the last time I talked to my parents for many years.

I headed back to prison for two and a half years. I could not imagine going back to prison. How could I when I had been so full of myself on the way out. I was no better than anyone else, I just caught a break, got lucky...and I threw it all away in a few seconds on that drunken night. But this was old behavior. I started drinking at age six, it was the first time I felt good in my body. At age twelve I started doing drugs, this was better than alcohol; it made me confident and happy. I had been self-medicating most of my life.

While in jail, I was diagnosed with bi-polar syndrome, they put me on lots of medication trying to find out what would work to keep me normal...I was far from normal... I could not think straight anymore, I had lost complete control of my emotions as well. I was diagnosed with early stages of cirrhosis of the liver, hepatitis-C, and fibrosis. The doctor told me that, if I did not change my ways, I would be dead in less than two years. He said I had to give up all drugs, alcohol, red meat, caffeine, and even chocolate, eat greens and drink lots of water! If I did that I could lengthen my life for an unknown amount of time.

So now it was up to me....did I really want to die? I had thought I did before, but I hadn't even lived yet, not really, and not without drugs and alcohol in my life. I realized that this was it, that I had to find a way to be done with my addictions. What were my odds of success? I still had work to do.

I was full of excuses. "If we would have taken our case to trial we could have won our case." I went to work in the law library to try to get my sentence

leader or policy maker question whether we **should** operate jail industries and other employment-based programs. The question is most always **how**? How, in this economy, do we determine which programs are the most necessary? How, when jail budgets barely cover the mandatory costs, do we justify funding non-mandated programming?

There are no easy answers, but when electeds, agency leaders and policy makers ask us how, or even why; they are not necessarily saying no, they are asking for a plan. They are offering us an opportunity to bring fresh ideas to the table and to explore creative new ways to accomplish the goal. If this recession has created anything positive, it is that push to do business in new and better ways.

There are grants available. Our proposals just have to be more creative and produce more measurable results than the rest. There is alternative funding and resource sharing that we can pursue through partnerships with other agencies, not-for-profit associations, labor organizations, and the private sector. We simply have to reach out and ask for help. The best advice I can give is to remember why jails exist in the first place. They house offenders. The biggest mistake we can make is to not view the inmate population as a major resource. If structured appropriately (legal/ethical/moral), offender labor will pay for every program and a portion of jail operations as well. The offenders benefit greatly through such programs and will stand in line to participate if you simply make them available. ♦



overturned due to illegal search and seizure. I was obsessed with the belief that the cops had no reason to knock on the hotel room door that day. The reality is that if I had been successful and got out; I would have been right back at it and am sure I would not be here right now.

Finally, I could not mentally or emotionally continue in that state. I started to do yoga and meditate. Little by little I found even ground. I stopped feeling sorry for myself and took responsibility for my life. I realized those five officers who muscled into my hotel room that day were really angels dressed like cops! [I was planning to put a bullet in my head later that day. We were going to cook the biggest batch of meth we ever had and if that didn't kill me, I had a backup plan...] So, I finally stopped fighting it and made up my mind to reclaim my life.

I had not renewed my asbestos certification, so could not work on the crew at WCCW. When I got back to work release, I renewed my Asbestos Supervisor certification. I called my old boss and got one more chance to get it right. I bought a 22-foot trailer from my boss, parked it in a friend's back yard and went to work. I joined the union and worked every hour I could.

That first year, I was tested and tested...everything that could go wrong did, loved ones died, were raped; my mother had major health issues, on and on... At one point I looked up and said, "Bring it on, no matter what happens I am not going to use"! One year later, I moved into a house; finally, running water and a bathroom and kitchen of my own. My second year out, I bought my first home. My fourth year out, I started my own asbestos abatement company. I closed it four years later and started a consulting firm, which has led me to teaching others how to remove asbestos, conduct HAZWOPER, etc.

Life has a way of coming full circle... I found myself walking back into the Kitsap County Jail, but this time clean and sober, a free person; a teacher. Then there were ten women sitting in front of me. They reminded me of where I came from... They showed a genuine eagerness to learn and to change their lives. I told them if I could do it, anyone can do it! I shared part of my story with

them. I saw them become genuinely interested; they soaked in the information like water to a sponge. I saw the light return to their faces, the hope instilled in them, the faith that they really could change their lives. I believe my story hit home with every one of them.

I told them this program is so important, that there is real light at the end of the tunnel, and that I am pulling for them. I know that they can do it. I told them that life still happens and things still get tough, but it is better without drugs and alcohol. I was honest. I told them I did not get it right the first time, so if they fall down, just get back up. I told them that they are worth it, and that someone believed in them enough to choose them for this program. Now, they just have to believe in themselves and know that they can do it!

I feel so honored to have been a part of the first round of hazardous waste training at the Kitsap County Jail. My gratitude for being a part of this program is indescribable. Thank you so much for giving these women a real opportunity to change their lives. ♦

Jail Industries Board News

New members bring new energy and ideas to any board. Spring is always a time of renewal, so it is fitting that the JIB welcomes several new members appointed by Governor Christine Gregoire since February:

Kathy Chance, a Commerce Specialist in Community Development Programs at the Washington State Department of Commerce.

Joanna Monroe, Vice President, Deputy General Counsel and Chief Compliance Officer at TrueBlue, Inc., a blue-collar staffing agency, is the newest JIB business representative.

Kelly Rosenow, Deputy Chief of Police for the City of Yakima, is the new Line Law Enforcement representative.

The Governor also reappointed **Sean Morrow**, Communications Workers of America, to a third term as a labor representative. Sean is also the current Chair of the Jail Industries Board. ♦

employer seeks in potential employees. The last workshop of the day was a facilitated roundtable discussion for jail industries practitioners to discuss their programs and to seek new ideas from each other.

A new option for the jail attendees this year was the inclusion of a one-day forum on jail industries. Co-facilitated by jail industries track chairs Dean Mason, Executive Director of the Washington State Jail Industries Board, and Rod Miller, Director of Community Resource Services, Inc., this forum was directed at jail staff new to the idea of expanding employment-based programs for offenders. The secondary goal was to provide a venue for local jails to participate in the national conference at a reduced rate.

The first of its kind one-day jail forum incorporated three workshops that took attendees through the development of a reentry based jail inmate work program including conceptualization, partnership development, implementation, and sustainability.

- Expanding Inmate Work Activities – A Primer
- Partnering for Success – Building a Strong Foundation for Expanded Inmate Work Activities
- Building on the Success and Experience of Others to Expand and Improve the Use of Inmate Labor

Upcoming Training for Jail Staff

Please see the advertisement on the last page for the [American Jail Association's 29th Annual Training Conference & Jail Expo](#) in Portland, Oregon on May 23 - 27, 2010. This is the closest the conference has been in a number of years.

The AJA conferences are another great opportunity to receive valuable training. The exhibit hall vendors offer a wide variety of products and programs that are perfect for developing new jail industries programs.

The National Correctional Industries Association is sponsoring a booth in the exhibit hall. Stop by and visit with other jail industries staff. If you are interested in volunteering to work in the booth for a portion of the conference, please contact [Dean Mason](#) for details.

Examples of a number of successful jail programs around the country were used to highlight the concept of benefitting from the experience and accomplishments of others. The registration fee included lunch in the exhibit hall. Jail forum workshop attendees received a "homework" assignment to find at least one vendor whose product could be used to develop a jail industry and to consider how they would implement that industry in their own jail.

Overall, the jail industries track was well attended. The highlights of the track were the soft skills workshop and the one-day forum. Attendees found the *Makin it Work* program developed by Dr. Steve Parese, and the early results reported from Washington State, to be of great interest and potential. Dr. Parese made a dynamic presentation and it was obvious from the level of discussion that the attendees, who included a number of state and local agency leaders, were highly engaged.

The one-day forum was attended well above expectations. Additional chairs were required to seat all of the attendees, who included local jail staff and leaders, state correctional industries (CI) staff, and one state CI director. Many of the attendees commented that they were leaving with a renewed optimism for jail industries programs and many new ideas to consider.

A welcome by-product was the interest generated in developing collaborations between state CIs and local jails. A shining example of that spirit of partnership was the fact that Ohio Penal Industries paid the conference sponsorship for the jail industries track. This was a just a part of the generous contribution from Ohio State Penal Industries Director Rod Miller, his staff, and their agency. The level of success achieved in the jail industries track this year would not have been possible without their support as the conference hosts.

Next year's National Training Conference (March 2011) is in Baltimore, Maryland, the home of the National Correctional Industries Association Headquarters. The host agency is Maryland Correctional Enterprises. Start planning now to attend. You will not be disappointed. ♦

Jail Industries Staff Recognized



The Yakima County Department of Corrections (YDOC) recently recognized Officer Terri Beernink for her many contributions to the agency in general, and specifically for her efforts in the area of jail industries and programs. Terri is assigned as a Programs Officer. She supervises inmate crews, facilitates the ***Makin' it Work*** program, and instructs offenders in Food Handling, Flagger and Forklift Certification. She is also the programs volunteer coordinator and editor of the volunteer newsletter.

Comments from offenders completing courses taught by Terri say the most about her impact in the field. Offenders consistently describe her as a dedicated and caring professional whom they view as a role model. She confronts the realities of their past behavior and criminality while encouraging them to be better people and to strive for success both during incarceration and upon release. The number of success stories inspired by her leadership increases every day.

Officer Beernink received her award from YDOC Director of Corrections, Ed Campbell, during a County Commissioner's meeting in January. Also in attendance were her husband and son, members of the YDOC leadership staff and the Executive Director of the Jail Industries Board. The commissioners publicly praised and thanked Terri for her contributions. True to her nature, Officer Beernink credited the YDOC leadership, staff and volunteers for ensuring that programs are supported and effective. The reality is that effective programs need a catalyst and, in this case, Officer Terri Beernink is that necessary spark.

Congratulations Terri!

Jail Industries Board News

February also brought about the end of terms for a number of Jail Industries Board members. While always a sad event, former members are actually allies that never really go away. They leave with a base of knowledge about jail issues, jail industries, reentry, and the need to do more to battle the cycle of recidivism. They often move on to continue similar work in their communities and agencies, and sometimes as members of other boards and commissions where the lessons learned from their time with the JIB can further influence public policy decisions. Board members represent both criminal justice stakeholders and the community in general. Their work is important. They do not do it for pay, or recognition, or even gratitude. They do the work because it makes a difference and the community is better for it. They deserve, at the least, our thanks and appreciation.

OUTGOING MEMBERS:

Bob Abbott, Assistant Business Manager
WA & North Idaho District Council of Laborers
Member 2007 - 2010

Dave Dillman, Chief Operating Officer
Seattle Metropolitan Improvement District
Member 2004 - 2010

Kathy Giglio, Program Manager
Department of Commerce
Member 2007 – 2010

Rob Holland, Former Business Representative
Commissioner – Port of Seattle
Member 2007 - 2010

Dave King, Commander
Vancouver Police Department
Member 2007 - 2010

Dick Pierson, Realtor
VanDorm Realty
Member 2007 - 2010

Thank you all for your service!

Something Good from Hazardous Waste

More Training Funded by Carl D. Perkins Grant

By Dean Mason

Executive Director, Jail Industries Board



The last issue contained an article, [Joint Venture Nets Funding: Carl Perkins Grant Funds Employment-Based Training in Jails and Prisons](#), that explained how the Jail Industries Board collaborated with State Correctional Industries to pilot a soft-skills training program for offenders in prisons and jails. Kitsap County and Yakima County continue to deliver the *Makin' it Work* program using custody staff trained as facilitators. Offenders receive twenty hours of instruction, including a pre-test and a post-test to determine their understanding of the material.

Successful graduates of *Makin' it Work* receive a certificate that has a list of the competencies achieved, which is highly useful to prospective employers post-release. Finally, all participants are enrolled in the Employment Security (ESD) - Services, Knowledge and Information Exchange System (SKIES), a database useful in tracking post-release employment success and job retention rates. Both counties have made great strides in collaborating with ESD WorkSource staff to deliver additional training and resources for offenders to achieve successful employment.

A portion of the original grant was set aside to train ten (10) offenders at the Kitsap County Jail in hazardous waste operations and emergency response (HAZWOPER) and asbestos abatement. These two certificates provide an offender the opportunity to obtain living wage employment upon release. [A prevailing wage shop pays \$40.05 per hour for asbestos abatement work.]

Kitsap County set up the training in a classroom at the jail. The Jail Industries Board hired a contractor, *Environmental Management Training (EMT)*, who brought in the necessary equipment and a facilitator. Ten women were enrolled. The group completed four days (32 hours) of asbestos abatement training. The next week, they

completed five days (40 hours) of HAZWOPER training. All ten women successfully completed both trainings. To date, we have confirmation that one of the women achieved employment in the field. We are confident there will be more.

Based on the initial success of the Kitsap County pilot, the Jail Industries Board was able to obtain an additional \$40,000 dollars in Perkins grant funding to conduct five more sessions of the training for ten offenders per session. Due to the discounted rate received from EMT, jails were selected based on proximity to the contractor in order to maintain that rate without incurring additional travel costs. The availability of work in the surrounding area was also taken into consideration while selecting the training sites. The five sites selected were Kitsap, Thurston, Lewis, and Pierce counties, and the City of Kent.



Kitsap, Thurston and Lewis completed their training sessions, all with great success. Pierce County and Kent are scheduled for late April and early May. As more of the participants release, the hope is that data will begin to become available that will assist us in determining the overall success of this program. Again, expectations are high. ♦

Note: [Environmental Management Training](#) (EMT) quickly adapted to working within the constraints and needs of the individual jails. They adjusted their trainings to fit within available space and they adjusted the delivery days and times to fit the jails' scheduling needs. EMT also reduced its regular tuition costs by \$250 per student resulting in a net savings of [\\$15,000](#) to train sixty (60) offenders. The owners of EMT believe in training quality workers for their industry and are committed to supporting offender reentry. As you might have determined from Roxanne's story, EMT puts those beliefs into practice by also hiring former offenders. This is a company that understands the importance of socially responsible business practices. It has been a pleasure to work with them.



AMERICAN JAIL ASSOCIATION

AJA's 29th Annual Training Conference & Jail Expo Portland, Oregon

May 23-27, 2010

What Will the AJA Conference Offer You?

Jail Training - More than **40 workshops** on a variety of topics pertinent to the jail professional covering:

Administration and Direct Supervision.

Certified Jail Manager **and** Certified Jail Officer programs.

Medical and Mental Health.

Operations and Programs.

National Institute of Corrections cosponsored workshops on Legal Issues and more!

Networking - As the largest conference tailored to jail professionals, with a projected **2,000 participants**, you'll have the opportunity to discuss similar issues and different solutions.

Jail Expo - Speak with representatives from more than **250 companies** about their products and services that will help you and your staff do your jobs more effectively and efficiently.

[Conference Overview](#)

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[Online Housing Reservations](#)

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SCAM ALERT: A number of associations like AJA have been targeted in the past by individuals claiming to represent conference housing, travel, etc. Travel Portland Housing Department is AJA's ONLY authorized housing affiliate for its upcoming conference. If you are contacted by any other company regarding housing, do not provide any information. Should you be contacted by someone claiming to be from Travel Portland Housing Department, please verify that indeed he/she is a legitimate representative by calling 877-678-5263, #2, or 503-275-9293 (for International attendees).